

April 8, 1988

LB 1073, 1073A, 1092, 1106, 1160, 1174, 1178
1232, 1234
LR 21

business couldn't be given assistance for whatever reason without any expansion of jobs or investment under this proposal. It doesn't talk about what...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...kind of businesses we are discussing here, whether they are retail, basic, or whatever, on and on and on, and I have raised many of these questions before. They still remain unanswered. The proposal is that we come back and enact enabling legislation and perhaps that would take care of it. On the other hand, again, I emphasize to you, when we passed the lottery issue back about 20 years ago, we never envisioned the sort of results that we have now with pickles and other activity that were authorized inadvertently by that amendment. In addition, tax increment financing was passed, and I remember all kinds of end results that nobody talked about when we passed that amendment. The Constitution is too sacred a document to not be extremely careful anytime we amend it, and I think in this instance we are not careful enough and ought not to pass this. And, in fact, I'd support the Johnson motion to return and kill it.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Warner is next, but may I state that while the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LB 1073, LB 1073A, LB 1092, LB 1106, LB 1160, LB 1174, LB 1178, LB 1232, and LB 1234. Senator Warner, please, then Senator Smith.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, probably the most important function the Legislature has is the one you are dealing with right now. We have a tendency to talk about budget and tax policy and a variety of legislation that is enacted, but now we are dealing with the fundamental, the constitutional law of Nebraska. I suspect that some of you have been told, put this on the ballot because we are just going to let the people have a chance to vote. We have heard that many times. And I will grant you that on occasion, on occasion you can have a constitutional amendment in which I would agree that you ought to let the people vote because it is such an emotional issue that it is going to keep plaguing you until it is put on the ballot, and it is the only way you can resolve it. But this is not one of those. This is one of those constitutional amendments that you are going to make a fundamental change that this state once found was wrong, that is why it is in the